

City of Fayetteville
Regular Mayor and City Council Meeting
Minutes
March 16, 2006

Call to Order

The Mayor and City Council of Fayetteville met in regular session on Thursday, March 16, 2006 at 7:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers at City Hall. Mayor Steele called the meeting to order, and led those attending in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag. Council members present were: Glenn Brewer, Larry Dell, Paul Oddo, Jr., Wilson Price, and Walt White. Staff members present were City Manager Joe Morton and City Clerk Judy Stephens.

White moved to approve the minutes of the Regular Council Meeting of March 2, 2006. Price seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously

Recognition and Presentations:

Judge Fletcher Sams swore in Police Chief Steve Heaton.

Mayor Steele advised that Steve Heaton was the top selection from the group of application, and the City of Fayetteville is extremely honored to have him as our Police Chief.

Mayor Steele presented Jeff Harris with a plaque for his hard work and dedication while serving as the interim Police Chief from June 2005 until March 9, 2006.

Public Hearings:

Mayor Steele called Public Hearing on Proposed Ordinance #0-3-06 – Amendment to Water and Sewer Ordinance.

Ellen Walls, Assistant Director of Finance stated The City of Fayetteville initiated a Water and Sewer Rate Study to determine if a rate adjustment is warranted to meet the financial needs of the Water and Sewer Utility System. The following goals and objectives were addressed through the rate study:

- Full cost recovery of system operating expenditures for water and sewer facilities;
- Rates sufficient to support financing of capital projects and repayment of debt including debt coverage; and
- Rates sufficient to provide for depreciation of assets and renewal and replacement of assets.

It is recommended that the City adopt rate adjustments for the water and sewer rates to be effective June 1, 2006. Adoption of these measures would ensure that the City has adequate financial resources to meet the long-term financial needs of the water and sewer systems. The following is a table reflection the current and proposed rates:

UTILITY	RANGE	CURRENT	PROPOSED
Water – Residential	0-2,000 gallons (min)	\$12.00	\$13.20
Water - Commercial	0-2,000 gallons (min)	\$22.00	\$24.20
Water – Res & Com	Over 2,000 gallons (per 1000 gals)	\$2.40	\$2.65
Wtr/Res Conservation	Over 20,000 gallons (per 1000 gals)	\$2.64	\$2.92
Water – Senior	0-3,000 gallons (min)	\$10.00	\$11.22
Water - Senior	Over 3,000 gallons (per 1000 gals)	\$2.40	\$2.65
Wtr/Sr Conservation	Over 20,000 gallons (per 1000 gals)	\$2.64	\$2.92

UTILITY	RANGE	CURRENT	PROPOSED
Sewer – Residential	0-2,000 gallons (min)	\$10.00	\$12.00
Sewer - Commercial	0-2,000 gallons (min)	\$20.00	\$23.00
Sewer – Res & Com	Over 2,000 gallons (per 1000 gals)	\$1.65	\$2.00
Sewer – Senior	0-3,000 gallons (min)	\$8.50	\$10.20
Sewer - Senior	Over 3,000 gallons (per 1000 gals)	\$1.65	\$2.00

These tables represent the proposed rate structure changes which would result in an increase in the combined water and sewer utility bill by approximately 15%.

It is recommended that the City review the water and sewer rate structure annually to ensure that adequate levels of system revenues are in place to adequately support the expenditures of the utility systems including appropriate levels of debt service coverage.

During the course of the water and sewer rate study, constant reviewing of the revenues collected by the City for utility services has brought to my attention the need to update all charges for utility services performed by City personnel. The recommended changes to the existing rates are indicated in the table below:

SERVICE	CURRENT	PROPOSED
Reconnection – Working Hours	\$15.00	\$25.00
Reconnection – After Hours	\$30.00	\$50.00
Reread Meter-Check for Leak (If Misread – No Charge)	\$10.00	\$20.00

Hydrant Meter - 0–5,000 gallons	\$12.50	\$24.20
Hydrant Meter - Over 5,000 gallons	\$2.50	\$2.65
Processing Fee (new service)	\$35.00	\$35.00
Transfer Fee (within the City)	\$20.00	\$20.00

- The proposed hydrant meter user fees are increased to be consistent with the other proposed commercial water rates.
- The requested increase for the reconnection fees and reread fees are to deter the unnecessary and time consuming work associated with delinquent accounts and accounts seeking to avoid paying their utility bills. Repeated trips to a customer's residence to reconnect service, reread a meter, or checking for leaks because a customer is attempting to avoid payment or delay payment is costly. The difficult customers only account for 2% of our customer base, but they create a lot of work. We budget for a 2% increase in operations and maintenance costs annually but no increase in fees is factored to offset the expenditures.

No increases in the processing or transfer fees are recommended at this time.

There were no Public comments

Mayor Steele advised this item would come up for a vote at the April 6, 2006 meeting.

Ellen Walls, Assistant Director of Finance presented Resolution R-3-06 Proportionate Share Amendments.

Ellen advised staff is proposing to revise the sewer proportionate share rates to recover half of the cost associated with the design, construction, and debt service of the Wastewater Treatment Plant Expansion. This proposed adjustment would deflect new facility cost away from the existing customers and place this responsibility upon new development (commercial and residential). Upon review of the Sewer Use Category Worksheet for purposes of factoring sewer proportionate share costs, the following changes to this worksheet are recommended:

Add the rate factor for the 2.5 MGD Wastewater Treatment Plant Rebuild and Expansion using estimated costs. The Wastewater Treatment Plant Expansion will add an additional \$7.91 per gallon to the current sewer proportionate fees city-wide. The estimated cost factors are based upon construction cost, engineering costs, and interest expense (debt service) for a total of \$19,780,820. We are recovering one-half of the plant cost, or \$9,890,410, through sewer proportionate share fees for capital cost.

The proposed increase will place our residential sewer proportionate share fees within the median of the local systems reviewed and this information is indicated in the table below:

City of Fayetteville (Current)	\$1036
City of Peachtree City (1)	\$1750
City of Peachtree City (2)	\$2200
City of Griffin	\$2950
City of Fairburn	\$3500
City of Fayetteville (Proposed)	\$3531
City of Douglasville-Douglas County	\$4650
City of Palmetto	\$5000

In the table above, Peachtree City has two different residential sewer connection fees depending upon the location of development.

There were no public comments

White moved to adopt Resolution R-3-06 Proportionate Share Amendments. Dell seconded the motion.

For motion: White, Dell, Brewer, Price

Abstained: Oddo

Motion carried.

Brenda Hall, Human Resource Manager presented Resolution R-4-06 – Amendment to Personnel Manual.

Brenda stated the revisions to the Personnel Policy Manual are as follows:

(1) Definitions – Tobacco – page 9

We are adding the definition of tobacco as referenced in section 13.050 Tobacco Use Policy (formerly Smoking Policy).

(2) 2.100 – Working Hours – page 14

We are removing the working hours of 8 to 5 to clarify the flexible work schedules which are different in each department.

(3) 3.340 Promotions – page 21

We are clarifying which employees are not eligible for a promotion.

(4) 7.630 – Unpaid Leave of Absence and 7.660 Military Leave – page 36 & 37

Because the normal work week has changed, we are adding the number of hours equivalent to the number of days allowed per year for Military Leave.

(5) 8.720 – Political Activities – page 46

We are clarifying the type of solicitation.

(6) 9.820 (d) Working Test – page 53

This is being deleted because working test is not considered to be an adverse action.

(7) 13.050 – Tobacco Use Policy – page 62

We are deleting the Smoking Policy and adding the Tobacco Use Policy to include all types of tobacco use. We are also including restrictions as to where employees will be allowed to use these products.

(8) 13.070 – Seat Belt Policy – page 63

We are adding a statement that violations of the Seat Belt Policy will result in the loss of the safety Award.

Dell moved to adopt Resolution R-4-06 Amendment to Personnel Manual – Tobacco Use. Price seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Steele called Public Hearing on Proposed Ordinance #0- 4-06 – Amendment to Fiscal Year 2006 Budget.

Lynn Robinson, Director of Finance stated this is an ordinance to amend Fiscal Year 2006 General Fund, Capital Projects Fund, Impact Fee Fund, SPLOST Fund, Downtown Development Authority, and Main Street Tourism Fund budgets. The total amendments to all funds are a decrease of \$857,456.

There were no public comments.

Mayor Steele advised this item would come up for a vote at the April 6, 2006 meeting.

Mayor Steele called Public Hearing on Proposed Ordinance #0-5-06 – Amendment to Health and Sanitation Ordinance – Tobacco Use.

Joe Morton, City Manager advised this amendment will allow for conformity with the Personnel Manual amendment on Tobacco Use.

There were no public comments.

Mayor Steele advised this item would come up for a vote at the April 6, 2006 meeting.

Joe Morton, City Manager presented Non Profit Funding Policy.

Joe advised this policy has been prepared by staff to provide guidelines to City Council on funding requests from non-profit organizations. Each non-profit organization would be required to complete an application requesting funding assistance in the proposed City budget prior to April 1st of each year. If approved by the City Council, a funding agreement between the City and the non-profit organization would be required.

Dell moved to approve Non Profit Funding Policy. Brewer seconded the motion.

For motion: Dell, Brewer, White, Price

Abstained: Oddo

Motion carried.

Dell moved to go into executive session to discuss potential litigation. Price seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Price moved to reconvene back into regular session. Dell seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Dell moved to adjourn the meeting. Price seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Judy Stephens, City Clerk